

From: Ameta Macaluso
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/21/02 2:14pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Clear Day P.O. Box 11408

Bainbridge Island, WA 98110-5408

January 21, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my opinion that the recent settlement between the US Department of Justice and Microsoft is in the best interests of the American public. I think further litigation would be detrimental to a company that has revolutionized the IT industry and made so many contributions to our country.

I realize that at times Microsoft's marketing tactics were a bit heavy-handed, but their aggressiveness only reflects the incentives of our capitalist society, and they are not alone in this respect. I believe they are being targeted for their success, not for their tactics. Were other very successful companies prosecuted in this manner, there would be very few left unscathed.

At any rate, the terms of the settlement should be sufficient to appease all

parties involved because they address claims of competitors? inability to market their products effectively. Under terms of the settlement Microsoft will design future Windows versions so that others can more easily promote competing products. Microsoft will also grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows so as to make it easier for non-Microsoft software to be promoted from within. Surely a fair-minded look at the situation will show that this step, along with other concessions that are being made in the same vein, is enough to address whatever complaints have been lodged.

Please accept the settlement as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

[signed]

Ameta Macaluso